REMARKS

The Office Action dated 15 July 2005 has been fully considered by the Applicant.

Attached is a Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time and a check in the amount of $450 to cover the fee.

Claims 2-5, 8-11, 13 and 14 have been previously presented. Claim 12 has been canceled. Claims 1, 6, 7 and 15 are currently amended. Claim 16 is new

Claims 1, 4-12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 5,995,155 to Schindler et al in view of United States Patent No. 5,740,466 to Geldman et al.

Examiner Vent has indicated that the '466 Geldman et al patent discloses a SCSI FIFO 44 that holds instructions as seen in Figure 2 and disclosed in column 12, lines 12-17. However, according to column 12, lines 12-17, the instructions stored in the '466 Geldman et al patent FIFO are simple read/write instructions, that is, only commands for the control of storage of data in the storage means. The Geldman et al '466 patent teaches that the SCSI protocol processor 21 manages SCSI phase changes and the operation of the SCSI protocol processor is controlled either by a program stored in a buffer memory 27, or by the local processor 31 (see column 5, lines 35-41). In the Geldman et al '466 patent the buffer memory 27 is separate and external to the SCSI controller, as seen in Figure 1. In addition, the Geldman et al FIFO 44 is transparent to the local processor 31, as stated in column 13, lines 45-47. Thus, in the Geldman et al '466 patent, the commands for implementing phase changes, i.e. commands for the control system, are not stored in the FIFO, but in a separate buffer memory. In contrast, Applicants' FIFO buffer includes both commands for the control system, e.g. phase change, and commands for the control of storage of data in the storage

means, i.e. read/write instructions, which automates part of the data transfer process and improves the efficiency of EIDE drives bulk data transfer, as described in the specification. Therefore, Applicants sincerely believe the features found in independent claim 1, and dependent claims 2-11, 13-15, are novel over the cited references. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection.

In addition, the Geldman et al '466 patent does not appear to teach that a FIFO is provided with generic instructions and used for any possible read/write instructions as suggested by Examiner Vent. Rather, the Geldman et al FIFO is used as a buffer between the SCSI bus and external memory. In contrast, the provision of generic instructions to the FIFO buffer of Applicants' invention allows a range of devices to be attached thereto.

In summary, the combination of Geldman et al and Schindler et al, taken together, would not provide the limitations of the present invention.

Claims 2 and 3 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 5,955,155 to Schindler et al in view of United States Patent No. 5,740,466 to Geldman et al and in further view of United States Patent No. 4,166,289 to Murtha et al. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from independent claim 1 and are believed to be novel over the cited references as stated herein.

No examination has been made of claims 13, 14 and 15, although these are believed allowable for the same reasons.

It is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If any further issues remain, a telephone conference with the Examiner is requested. If any further fees are associated with this action, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-1500.

Respectfully Submitted

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